



9 February 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: UCLA Arms Control Verification Conference

1. John McMahon asked that the PIOB be informed of circumstances surrounding the attached papers "to make sure they hear it from us first." I called Bob Turner, Counsel to the PIOB, this morning. He has assumed his new position at the Department of State and is only occasionally at the PIOB to help out until his replacement is named. I passed the following onto Joan Edwards, his secretary, and asked that it be brought to his attention.

2. There has been press treatment of an incident involving a paper presented at a UCLA conference on arms control verification. The Washington Post reported on January 27, 1984, that the Air Force had intervened with one of the speakers at the conference to tell him that he might be prosecuted under the espionage laws if he delivered a paper dealing with satellite reconnaissance. There was no mention of CIA in the article. As it turns out, CIA had apparently agreed to partially or fully support the conference. (This fact was unclassified.) There is nothing improper about our sponsoring such an academic activity, provided that appropriate officials of the university are aware that we are involved. I told Joan Edwards that we were going to ascertain whether or not this was the case, that the preliminary information available to me suggested that the university was very much aware. As best I could tell, the people involved in deciding to sponsor this conference had been dumb, but no violation of law or executive order had taken place. I told her we would let them know formally if we discovered anything different.

3. I was subsequently informed that Joan Edwards has passed the above information on to Bob Turner.

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James H. Taylor
Inspector General

cc: D/OLL ✓